

Message Text

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ORIGIN ACDA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10
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TO USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY
INFO USDEL MBFR VIENNA PRIORITY
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AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:PARM, SOPN

SUBJECT: MARCH 9 ROUNDUP: PRESS ITEMS OF ARMS CONTROL
INTEREST

LONDON FOR AMB/EX

1. NEW YORK TIMES PUBLISHED ASSOCIATED PRESS DISPATCH
FROM THE HAGUE REPORTING THAT DUTCH PARLIAMENT ADOPTED
RESOLUTION YESTERDAY OPPOSING PRODUCTION OF NEUTRON BOMB
AND CALLING ON GOVERNMENT TO NOTIFY U.S. AND OTHER NATO
ALLIES OF ITS ACTION. RESOLUTION CONFLICTS WITH GOVERN-
MENT'S VIEW THAT TALKS MUST BE HELD BETWEEN NATO PARTNERS
BEFORE ANY POSITION CAN BE TAKEN ON NEUTRON BOMB, DISPATCH
SAID.

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2. COLUMNIST GARRY WILLS, WRITING IN WASHINGTON STAR,
SAID CARTER AND BRZEZINSKI NOW ARE TELLING USSR THAT
FUTURE OF SALT IS LINKED TO SOVIET UNION'S RESTRAINT IN
HORN OF AFRICA. "EXPLAINING WHY THIS WAS NOT CASE OF
NIXON-ERA LINKAGE, BRZEZINSKI HINTED THAT REAL OBSTACLE OF
SALT WAS NOT ONLY RUSSIA BUT AMERICAN HAWKS ON CAPITOL

HILL. THEY WILL NOT AGREE TO NEW TREATY IF RUSSIA IS EDGING TOWARD CONTROL IN HORN OF AFRICA. THIS IS SHORT-SIGHTED APPROACH.... NOW THAT CARTER HAS MADE FURTHER TREATY DEPEND ON RUSSIAN COOPERATION IN AFRICA, HE HAS GIVEN SALT'S ENEMIES VERY POWERFUL WEAPON. THEY WILL BE ONES DEFINING CARTER'S SUCCESS OR FAILURE. WHAT IS RUSSIAN COOPERATION OR RESTRAINT? STOPPING AT SOMALIA'S BORDERS' REDUCING TROOPS IN AREA; SENDING BACK CUBAN TROOPS FROM AFRICA; TOTAL WITHDRAWAL? ANYTHING LESS THAN LAST (UNLIKELY) RESPONSE WILL BE CALLED NONCOOPERATION BY JACKSON FORCES IN SENATE. CARTER WILL BE ACCUSED OF BACKING OFF STAND HE TOOK IN FIRST PLACE."

3. SYNDICATED COLUMNIST JACK ANDERSON, WRITING IN MARCH 9 WASHINGTON POST, "REVEALED" THAT AMBASSADOR TOON WAS CUT OFF FROM CONTACT WITH TOP SOVIET OFFICIALS IN MOSCOW FOR SEVERAL MONTHS. DURING THIS PERIOD, ANDERSON REPORTED, SOVIET AMBASSADOR DOBRYNIN HAD "COMPLETED ACCESS" TO TOP WASHINGTON OFFICIALS. ANDERSON SAID CARTER WAS INFURIATED AND LET DOBRYNIN KNOW "IN NO UNCERTAIN TERMS THAT RELATIONSHIP WOULD HAVE TO BE RECIPROCAL." NOW, ANDERSON ADDED, TOON'S PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP WITH BREZHNEV IS AMIABLE BUT ACCESS TO OTHER KREMLIN INSIDERS IS STILL LIMITED."

4. JAY FINEGAN OF ARMY TIMES (MARCH 6) REPORTED THAT UNCLASSIFIED

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SOVIETS MAY TRY TO PLACE MISSILES IN CUBA IF U.S. DECIDES TO POSITION CRUISE MISSILES IN WESTERN EUROPE. HIS REPORT WAS BASED ON COMMENTS BY REP. CHARLES H. WILSON, WHO RECENTLY OBSERVED SALT SESSIONS IN GENEVA. WILSON STATED "RUSSIANS SAID IF WE PUT CRUISE MISSILES IN EUROPE, THEY WOULD CONSIDER IT THEIR RIGHT TO PUT MISSILES IN CUBA." FINEGAN POINTED OUT "IT WAS NOT CLEAR IF SOVIETS WERE TALKING ABOUT BALLISTIC OR CRUISE MISSILES FOR CUBA, WILSON SAID, BUT HE 'SUPPOSED' THEY WERE REFERRING TO CRUISES."

5. WALTER PINCUS OF WASHINGTON POST SAID PRESIDENT CARTER WAS ENCOUNTERING SERIOUS CONGRESSIONAL RESISTANCE IN PUTTING HALT TO PRODUCTION OF B77 NUCLEAR BOMB THAT WAS CUSTOM-DESIGNED FOR B-ONE BOMBER. PINCUS SAID "HOUSE ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE AND SOME OFFICIALS IN GOVERNMENT'S NUCLEAR WEAPONS COMMUNITY ARE WORKING TO GET CONGRESS TO REVERSE PRESIDENT'S DECISION AND HAVE B77 BUILT EVEN WITHOUT B-ONE TO CARRY IT." SUPPORTERS CLAIM B77 IS NEEDED FOR B52, F111 AND OTHER TACTICAL FIGHTER-BOMBERS. MORE THAN 150 MILLION DOLLARS HAS BEEN SPENT ON DEVELOPING AND TESTING FULL FUZING OPTION B77 DESIGNED

TO BE DROPPED BY B-ONE FLYING AT ABOUT 200 FEET AND MORE THAN 700 MILES PER HOUR. ANOTHER 100 MILLION OR MORE IN DEVELOPMENT MONEY WILL BE SPENT THIS YEAR AND NEXT. PINCUS SAID ADMINISTRATION OFFICIALS EXPECT THAT COMMITTEE WILL PUT FUNDS FOR PRODUCING BUY INTO FISCAL 1979 AUTHORIZATION BILL AND ATTEMPT TO PUSH IT THROUGH CONGRESS.

6. MICHAEL DOBBS, IN SPECIAL TO WASHINGTON POST, SAID ALTHOUGH MOST IMPORTANT DECISION TAKEN AT BELGRADE CONFERENCE HAS BEEN AN AGREEMENT TO MEET AGAIN IN 1980, WESTERN DELEGATES ARE "AT PAINS TO EMPHASIZE THAT THIS DOES NOT MEAN CONFERENCE HAS BEEN WORTHLESS EXERCISE." DOBBS POINTED OUT THAT WHILE WESTERN DELEGATES CONSISTENTLY PUT MORE EMPHASIS ON HUMAN RIGHTS PROVISIONS IN HELSINKI DECLARATION, EAST EUROPEANS WERE MORE INTERESTED IN

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SECURITY AND MILITARY DETENTE. "MOSTLY DISAPPOINTED AT OUTCOME OF CONFERENCE ARE NEUTRAL DELEGATES WHO SAW IT AS AN ALTERNATIVE TO SECRET BILATERAL DIPLOMACY BETWEEN BIG POWERS." VANCE

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